



ASA-724-02

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: T.

T. OKAMOTO et al.

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METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SEARCHING AND

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Group:

3694

Examiner:

E. Colbert

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

May 2, 2007

Sir:

The following is in response to the April 2, 2007 Office Action in which the Examiner alleges that restriction under 35 USC §121 is required and requests Applicants to elect one of the alleged inventions.

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicants hereby elect without traverse Invention I, claims 34-41 and 46-48 for further prosecution on the merits. Accordingly, an Office Action examining claims 34-41 and 46-48 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to

the deposit account of Mattingly, Stanger & Malur, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (ASA-724-02).

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

Daniel J. Stanger

Registration No. 32,846

DJS/sdb (703) 684-1120